An Vo

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M.S. student @ Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST)
291 Daehak-ro, Yuseong District, Daejeon, South Korea

BIOGRAPHY

An is a second-year M.S. student at Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST), working with Professor Daeyoung Kim and Professor Anh Totti Nguyen. His M.S. program is fully funded by the Hyundai CMK Global Scholarship. Prior to joining KAIST, An obtained his B.S. degree as the valedictorian at the University of Information Technology (UIT), Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City (VNU-HCM) in 2023, where he worked with Dr. Ngoc Hoang Luong. His research interests include fairness and interpretability in Large Language Models (LLMs)/Vision Language Models (VLMs).

EDUCATION

- **Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST) []** *Feb 2024 – Feb 2026*
  M.S. in Computer Science | Advisors: Daeyoung Kim, Anh Totti Nguyen Daejeon, South Korea
- **University of Information Technology (UIT), Vietnam National University HCMC []** *Aug 2019 – Apr 2023*
  B.S. in Computer Science | Advisor: Ngoc Hoang Luong Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  ◦ GPA: 9.32/10 (**Valedictorian**, #1)
  ◦ Thesis: Many-Objective Evolutionary Neural Architecture Search with Performance Predictors (10/10, **Best Thesis**)
- **Phan Ngoc Hien High School for the Gifted []** *Aug 2016 – Jul 2019*
  Specialized in Mathematics and Informatics Ca Mau, Vietnam

EXPERIENCE

- **Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST) []** *Feb 2024 – Present*
  Graduate Research Assistant Daejeon, South Korea
  ◦ Conducting research on fairness and interpretability in LLMs/VLMs.

- **University of Information Technology (UIT), Vietnam National University HCMC []** *Apr 2020 – Jan 2024*
  Undergraduate Research Assistant Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  ◦ Conducted research on Evolutionary Computation, Neural Architecture Search (NAS), Vehicle Routing Problem, and Multi-Objective Optimization.
  ◦ Developed novel algorithms to enhance the efficiency of NAS using evolutionary strategies and optimization algorithms.

- **ZaloPay, VNG Corporation []** *Jul 2023 – Sep 2023*
  Associate Data Scientist Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  ◦ Worked on customer lifetime value (CLV) modeling to provide actionable insights for the business team.
  ◦ Developed predictive models to improve customer retention and optimize marketing strategies.

- **Eximbank []** *May 2023 – Jul 2023*
  Developer Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  ◦ Assisted in developing financial software solutions to enhance banking operations.

PUBLICATIONS
C=CONFERENCE, J=JOURNAL, U=UNDER REVIEW

* indicates equal contribution.
Conference papers

[C.1] Thao Do, Dinh Phu Tran, <u>An Vo</u>, Daeyoung Kim (2025). Reference-Based Post-OCR Processing with LLM for Precise Diacritic Text in Historical Document Recognition. *Annual AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*. [pdf | code | dataset]

[C.2] <u>An Vo</u>, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2024). Efficient Multi-Objective Neural Architecture Search via Pareto Dominance-based Novelty Search. *Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO)*. [pdf | code]

[C.3] Nhat Minh Le*, <u>An Vo</u>*, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2024). Zero-Cost Proxy-Based Hierarchical Initialization for Evolutionary Neural Architecture Search. *IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC)*. [pdf]

[C.4] Khoa Huu Tran, Luc Truong, <u>An Vo</u>, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2023). Accelerating Gene-pool Optimal Mixing Evolutionary Algorithm for Neural Architecture Search with Synaptic Flow. *Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Companion Conference (GECCO Companion)*. [pdf | code]

[C.5] <u>An Vo</u>, Tan Ngoc Pham, Van Bich Nguyen, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2022). Training-Free Multi-Objective and Many-Objective Evolutionary Neural Architecture Search with Synaptic Flow. *International Symposium on Information and Communication Technology (SoICT)*. **Best Paper Award**. [pdf | code]

Journal papers

[J.1] Ngoc Hoang Luong, Quan Minh Phan, <u>An Vo</u>, Tan Ngoc Pham, Dzung Tri Bui (2024). Lightweight Multi-Objective Evolutionary Neural Architecture Search with Low-Cost Proxy Metrics. *Information Sciences*. [pdf | code]

[J.2] <u>An Vo</u>, Tan Ngoc Pham, Van Bich Nguyen, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2023). Lightweight Multi-Objective and Many-Objective Problem Formulations for Evolutionary Neural Architecture Search with the Training-Free Performance Metric Synaptic Flow. *Informatica*. [pdf | code]

Under-review papers

[U.1] <u>An Vo</u>, Nhat Minh Le, Ngoc Hoang Luong (2024). Efficient Multi-Objective Neural Architecture Search via Tree Search with Training-Free Metrics. *Under Review*.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

In M.S. Program

- 2025: Together AI Research Grant Credit – $150

- 2024: OpenAI Research Grant Credit – $2,500

- 2024: Cohere For AI Research Grant – $1,000

- 2024–2026: KAIST Fellowship – $22,000 (estimated total value)

- 2024–2026: Hyundai Chung-Mong Koo Global Scholarship – $45,000 (estimated total value)

In B.S. Program

- 2022–2023: Incentive for Scientific Publications – $100

- 2019–2023: University of Information Technology, VNU-HCM Merit Scholarships – $3,600 (estimated total value)

In High School

- 2016–2019: Incentive for Participation and Awards in High School Olympiads – $1,000 (estimated total value)

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

In B.S. Program

- 2023: **Valedictorian** of the B.S. Program

- 2023: Excellent Graduate of the B.S. Program

- 2022: **Best Paper Award** at the International Symposium on Information and Communication Technology (SoICT)

- 2022: Ho Chi Minh City Outstanding Youth

- 2022: Award for Outstanding Scientific Research Publications

- 2019: Top 100 Student Leaders of Ho Chi Minh City

- 2019–2023: Recognized for Excellence in Academics and Personal Development

In High School

- 2019: Consolation Prize in the Provincial Science and Engineering Fair

- 2018: First Prize in the Provincial Youth Informatics Competition

- 2018: First Prize in the Provincial English-Language Science and Engineering Competition in Informatics

- 2018–2019: Competed in the National Olympiad in Informatics (VOI) x2

- 2017–2018: Second Prize in the Provincial Olympiad in Informatics x2

- 2017: Bronze Medal in the Summer Olympiad in the Mekong Delta in Informatics

- 2017: Bronze Medal in the April 30th Olympiad in Informatics

- 2017: Consolation Prize in the Provincial Physics Olympiad via Internet

SELECTED PRESS COVERAGE

In B.S. Program

- 2024: UIT News – Recipient of Master's Scholarship at Top Korean Research Institute: "Choosing UIT was my crucial and unforgettable turning point"

- 2024: UIT Cafe – "Is Studying Abroad the Ultimate Destination?" (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: **Tien Phong** – Valedictorian Graduating with Excellence and Passion for Science (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: **Thanh Nien** – The Valedictorian Who Persisted in Academia to 'Gain Freedom in Will and Time' (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: UIT News – Meet the Computer Science Student with Outstanding Achievements (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: **Dan Tri** – Meager Salary, Drowning in Debt – A Female Teacher Dreams of Earning Billions in Australia (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: **Tuoi Tre** – Ho Chi Minh City Leaders Dialogue with Outstanding Students: Opening Space for Gen Z Officials (in Vietnamese)

- 2023: **VnExpress** – Students Offer Solutions for Ho Chi Minh City to Attract Talent (in Vietnamese)

- 2022: **Tien Phong** – Two Students Receive 'Best Paper Award' at International Conference on ICT (in Vietnamese)

- 2022: **Tuoi Tre** – Applying AI to History Education (in Vietnamese)

In High School

- 2018: Dat Mui – 108 Students Compete in the Provincial Youth Informatics Competition (in Vietnamese)

MENTORING

Undergraduate Students at University of Information Technology, Vietnam National University–Ho Chi Minh City

- **Khoa Huu Tran** (Oct 2022 – Jan 2024) – GECCO Late-Breaking Abstract Paper [Published in [C.4]]

- **Luc Truong** (Oct 2022 – Jan 2024) – GECCO Late-Breaking Abstract Paper [Published in [C.4]]

- **Minh Le** (Oct 2022 – Feb 2023) – IEEE CEC Paper [Published in [C.3]]

- **Vy Tuong Dang** (Dec 2021 – Present) – KAIST Scholarship for M.S. Program (Full Tuition Fee & Stipend)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **Conference Reviewer/Program Committee**: IEEE CEC 2024, IEEE CEC 2025, IJCNN 2025

- **Journal Reviewer**: IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation (Impact Factor = 11.7)

INVITED TALKS

- 2022: **Vietnam Youth Academy** – University Learning Methods in the Context of Digital Transformation

- 2022: **Ho Chi Minh City Youth Symposium Proud of Vietnamese History** – Applying AI in History Education

SELECTED CERTIFICATES

- 2021: Computational Thinking for Problem Solving – University of Pennsylvania, Coursera

- 2021: Linear Algebra for Machine Learning and Data Science – DeepLearning.AI, Coursera

- 2021: Python for Data Science and AI – IBM, Coursera

- 2021: Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter Tuning, Regularization and Optimization – DeepLearning.AI, Coursera

- 2021: Neural Networks and Deep Learning – DeepLearning.AI, Coursera

- 2021: Fundamentals of Reinforcement Learning – University of Alberta, Coursera

- 2021: Sample-based Learning Methods – University of Alberta, Coursera

- 2020: How Google Does Machine Learning – Google Cloud, Coursera

- 2020: What is Data Science? – IBM, Coursera

- 2020: Basic Statistics – University of Amsterdam, Coursera

- 2020: Machine Learning – Andrew Ng, Stanford University, Coursera

REFERENCES

1. **Dr. Anh Totti Nguyen**
   Associate Professor, Auburn University
   anh.ng8 at gmail.com

2. **Dr. Daeyoung Kim**
   Full Professor, KAIST
   kimd at kaist.ac.kr

3. **Dr. Ngoc Hoang Luong**
   Lecturer & Head of AI Department, University of Information Technology, Vietnam National University HCMC
   hoangln at uit.edu.vn